

August 12, 1965

To the Pastor, Officers, and Members of this Church,

The boycott of the White places of business in St. Stephen by the Negro citizens of this area is proving effective. When the Whites find that they are losing money and decide to negotiate this list of grievances will be presented to them:

1. The fact that signs and posters by the Klan telling of their rallies and telling Negroes to stay out of St. Stephen were permitted to be put up by the people in St. Stephen. And further that these people support the Klan.
2. It is dangerous to walk along roads both day and night because people are shot at and things are thrown.
3. There are no public rest rooms in St. Stephen.
4. More police protection is needed. And, Negroes are not receiving justice under the law.
5. There is no bus station, just a bus stop.
6. There are threats and intimidation, for example, a bomb scare.
7. There are jobs in St. Stephen for white teenage girls only.
8. Concerning the Felt Plant.
 - a. Discrimination in hiring-- no colored women at the plant when there should be 50%.
 - b. Whites from other counties work there and then the Whites turn around and ask Negroes to spend their money in St. Stephen.
 - c. Whites earn \$15.00 a day at the plant and pay colored women \$2.00 a day to take care of their children and to work in the kitchen.
9. Dr. Schillinglaw's office has segregated waiting rooms. He takes the Whites first and makes the Colored wait all day. Schumann also has segregated waiting rooms.
10. Concerning the drug store:
 - a. Items are more expensive.
 - b. White's prescriptions are filled first, Colored last.
 - c. Negroes were told there was no rest room.
 - d. The store buys bargains from Edward's in Charleston and sells them back in St. Stephen.
11. Insurance salesmen and bill collectors drive up and honk the horn and call Negroes by their first names, instead of coming to the door and asking for Mr. Brown or Mrs. Smith.
12. There should be assurance from the White citizens of St. Stephen that school desegregation will take place without intimidation of Negro parents or violence.

These are just a few of our grievances. Actually there are too many to note here. We sincerely hope that we will be able to come together with our White brothers, talk these matters over and come to meaningful and lasting decisions. It is by putting aside our differences that we can come together as brothers in Christ and do the will of Our Father. MEANWHILE, BECAUSE THE CONDITION OF RECONCILIATION IS MUTUAL RESPECT, WE MUST KEEP UP THE BOYCOTT.

Yours in Christ,

The Committee of Berkeley County